

# WINDS FROM JAPAN

The Licensing Executives Society Japan

## LES Japan Special Seminar with Russell E. Levine, Kirkland & Ellis

By Takuya TAKAHASHI \*

### Seminar on February 27, 2025

The LES Japan U.S. Issues Working Group consists of more than 30 members and meets every other month to study and discuss U.S. court cases with focus on licensing and other aspects of intellectual property. On February 27, 2025, the group welcomed Mr. Russell E. Levine, partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, and a member of the Board of LES International and a Past-President of LES USA and Canada, for his special seminar “Top 10 Court Decisions of the Year Affecting Licensing”

covering court decisions from the year 2024. It was the third year in a row that the LES Japan U.S. Issues Working Group hosted this seminar. The topics discussed this year included potential issues associated with the scope of covenants not to sue, sublicensing, the scope of licensed patents and whether it includes continuation patents, force majeure provisions, standing, co-ownership, and royalty payments. Going over the decisions with Mr. Levine’s insightful comments, the audience gained updated knowledge and was once again reminded of the importance of carefully reviewing the language in drafting license agreements.



### The 2025 Tokyo Marathon on March 2, 2025

Following the seminar, Mr. Levine successfully ran the 2025 Tokyo Marathon. He received the six-star medal in 2023, completing all World Marathon Majors in Berlin, Boston, Chicago, London, New York, and Tokyo. The 2025 Tokyo

Marathon was his 25th career Marathon, which is “only the start of the next journey” according to Mr. Levine. All members of our Working Group wish him good luck on his continuing journey!

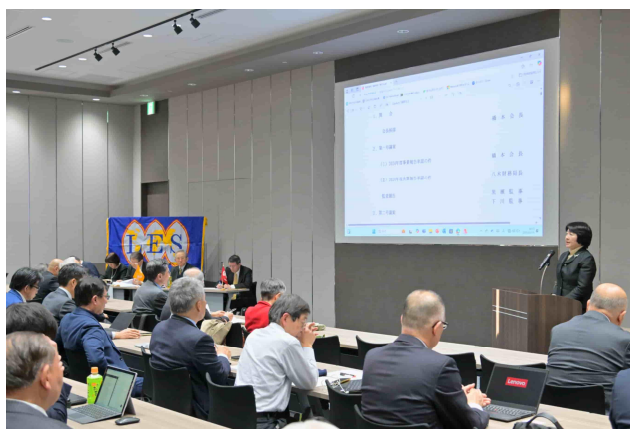
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\*Manager, Patent Department, NGB Corporation

# 2025 LES Japan Annual General Meeting

By Yasuo FUJII\*

LES Japan held its Annual General Meeting on February 19th, 2025, in Tokyo, Japan. At the beginning of the meeting, Ms. Chikako HASHIMOTO, President of LES Japan, delivered her opening remarks, followed by a report on LES Japan's activities in 2024, which included:

- 1) LES International YMC Asia-Pacific Conference
- 2) AIPLA and LES Japan Joint Meeting;
- 3) LES Japan Annual Conference in Niigata City;
- 4) LES Japan & LES China Joint Meeting;
- 5) Seminars;
- 6) Licensing training courses;
- 7) Working Group activities; and
- 8) Publications.



Annual General Meeting

Subsequently, President HASHIMOTO explained the activities planned for 2025, emphasizing that the following activities would be particularly focused on:

- 1) planning and holding the LES Japan Annual Conference to provide members with a comprehensive platform to communicate and share the latest IP issues;
- 2) participating in LES International events and actively engaging with other LES societies;
- 3) enhancing member benefits by introducing new initiatives, such as group memberships for the development of LES Japan;

- 4) promoting the activities of Committees and Working Groups; and
- 5) continuing to provide seminars and licensing training courses that benefit members.



Ms. Chikako HASHIMOTO

Then, the selection of a new Vice-President (Ms. Tomoko NOGUCHI) and new Board members (Ms. Kazumi KOYAMA, Mr. Mitsuo KARIYA, Mr. Yusuke ICHIKI, Mr. Taku SAKURAI, Ms. Hisako TANAKA, Mr. Roberto CARAPETO, Mr. Atsuhisa MIYATA, and Mr. Bunpei OIKE) were approved.



Ms. Tomoko NOGUCHI



Ms. Kazumi KOYAMA



Mr. Mitsuo KARIYA



Mr. Yusuke ICHIKI



Ms. Hisako TANAKA



Mr. Atsuhisa MIYATA



Mr. Bunpei OIKE



Mr. Roberto  
CARAPETO

Following the meeting, Mr. Hiroyuki KOGURE, the Chair of the organizing committee, announced that the 2025 LES Japan Annual Conference would be held on July 11th and 12th in Kanazawa City.



Mr. Hiroyuki  
KOGURE



Mr. Shoei IMAI

After the meeting concluded, Mr. Shoei IMAI, President-Elect of LES Japan, proposed a toast to begin the post-meeting party. During the party, the members received greetings guests, including: Mr.

Yota ONO, the Commissioner of the Japan Patent Office, and Mr. Tomonari HONDA, the Chief Judge of the Intellectual Property High Court. The participants enjoyed the party very much.



Mr. Yota ONO



Mr. Tomonari HONDA

The party concluded with remarks by Mr. Ichiro NAKATOMI, former President of LES International and former President of LES Japan, who expressed his expectations for the development of LES Japan.



Mr. Ichiro NAKATOMI



Post-meeting Party

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\* Editor / Patent Attorney, Haruka Patent & Trademark Attorneys

## Editors' Note

This issue includes articles "LES Japan Special Seminar with Russell E. Levine, Kirkland & Ellis" by Mr. Takuya TAKAHASHI, and "2025 LES Japan Annual General Meeting" by Mr. Yasuo FUJII.

Thank you for supporting "*WINDS from Japan*." This newsletter will continue to provide you with useful information on activities at LES Japan and up-to-date information on IP and licensing activities in Japan.

If you would like to refer to any back issues of our newsletters, you can access them via the following URL:

<https://www.lesj.org/en/winds/new.php>

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